

Hon. Robert K. Killian, Jr.

For 31 years he served as Judge of the Probate Court for the District of Hartford, retiring in April 2015. From April, 1997 to April, 1999, he served as Chief Judge and President Judge of the Connecticut Probate Assembly.

Judge Killian is admitted to practice law in Connecticut and the District of Columbia and is also admitted to practice before Connecticut Federal District Court; U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals; U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit; and the United States Supreme Court.

He is a member of the National Academy of Probate Judges, the National College of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the Hartford County, Connecticut and American Bar Associations and the Connecticut and American Trial Lawyers Associations. He is Chair of the ABA National Conference of Specialized Court Judges Probate Court Committee.

Killian attended Hartford schools and Kingswood School in West Hartford. He graduated from Union College in Schenectady, New York and received his law degree from Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C. in 1972.

While in Washington, he served as the Washington Bureau Chief for WTIC AM/FM and TV3. From 1972 to 1974, Killian served as a Special Assistant to Senator Abraham A. Ribicoff.

Judge Killian serves as a Regent of the University of Hartford; a Trustee of the Hartt School of Music; a Member of The University of Hartford Legal Studies Program Advisory Board; a Member of the Board of Directors of the Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut/Children's Fund of Connecticut; a director of the Yeats Drama Foundation; a Director of the Connecticut Chapter of the March of Dimes, and is an advisor to the Intensive Education Academy, a school for children with learning disabilities. He lectures regularly to professional and civic groups on a variety of probate topics including conservatorships, rights of the mentally ill and mentally retarded, juvenile law, health law and estate matters.

Killian served by appointment of former Chief Justice Ellen Peters as a member of the Judicial Council on Attorney Ethics. He served as a member of the State Investment Advisory Council from June 1995 through October 1999. In 1990, Killian was honored by his colleagues with their designation as Connecticut's Outstanding Probate Judge. In 2005, he was elected a James W. Cooper Fellow of the Connecticut Bar Foundation.